

(g) Whenever a member is determined to be mentally incompetent by medical officers of the uniformed services or of the Veterans Administration, or is adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction and because of such mental incompetency is incapable of making any election within the time limitations prescribed by the Plan, the Secretary of the Department concerned may make the appropriate election on behalf of such member upon request of the spouse, or if there be no spouse, by or on behalf of the child or children of such member. If such member is subsequently determined to be mentally competent by the Veterans Administration or a court of competent jurisdiction, he may, within 180 days after such determination or judgment, change or revoke the election made on his behalf. In such a case, the change or revocation will be effective on the date of the member's request for such change or revocation. Deductions previously made shall not be refunded.

(h) All elections on file on August 13, 1968, for members not entitled to receive retired pay shall be subject to the provisions of this section unless the member makes the application specified in § 48.604(d).

(i) A person who was a former member of the armed forces on November 1, 1953, and who is granted retired pay after that date, may, at the time he is granted that pay, make an election as provided in § 48.201.

§ 48.204 Change or revocation of election.

(a) A change of election is a change in the amount of the annuity or annuities under any option, or a change in any option or options selected. A revocation is a cancellation of a previous election and constitutes a withdrawal from coverage under the Plan.

(b) A member may change or revoke his election as often as he desires prior to the completion of 19 years of service. Such a change or revocation must be dated, signed, witnessed, and delivered to appropriate service officials, or postmarked not later than midnight on the day in which the member completes 19 years of service. The latest election, change, or revocation which is sub-

mitted in accordance with this subsection will be effective at retirement.

(c) A member who desires to make an election or change or revoke his election after he has completed 19 years of service may do so prior to his retirement. However, such an election, change or revocation will be effective only if at least 2 years elapse between the date of the election, change, or revocation and the date of eligibility to receive retired pay.

(d) A revocation will not prohibit the filing of a new election at a later date which will become valid under applicable validation provisions.

(e) A member may, on or after November 1, 1968, at any time prior to his retirement, change or revoke his election (provided the change does not increase the amount of the annuity elected) to reflect a change in the marital or dependency status of the member or his family caused by death, divorce, annulment, remarriage, or acquisition of a child, if such change or revocation is made within 2 years of such change in status.

(f) Notification of a change in family status is not a change of election.

(g) All changes and revocations on file on August 13, 1968, for members not entitled to retired pay shall be subject to the provisions of this section unless the member makes the application specified in § 48.604(d).

§ 48.205 Election form.

The form for making election after October 31, 1968, is prescribed as Election of Options, Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan, DD Form 1688.¹ It will be submitted as directed herein. All copies will be signed, and any otherwise complete, signed copy, when properly submitted, may be used to substantiate the fact of election, modification, revocation, or change in family status.

§ 48.206 Information regarding elections.

(a) All members of the Reserve component who will have accumulated sufficient service to be eligible for retired

¹Filed as part of the original document. Copies may be obtained from Military Personnel Office.

pay at age 60, will be counseled on the Plan before reaching their 57th birth dates in order to insure that valid elections can be made prior to their 58th birth dates. An election, modification, or revocation submitted subsequent to attaining age 58 will be valid only if it is made and submitted at least 2 years prior to the first date for which retired pay is granted.

(b) It is the responsibility of the department concerned to provide election forms and to promulgate information concerning the benefits of the Plan to all members so as to allow a timely election.

(c) Members retiring for physical disability prior to the completion of 19 years of service will, prior to retirement, be counseled and furnished information concerning the operation of the Plan.

Subpart C—Designation of Beneficiaries

§ 48.301 Designation.

(a) All legal beneficiaries described in § 48.102 must be named at the date of retirement pursuant to the option elected. Although a member without dependents may make an election, it will not be effective unless he has eligible dependents at the time of his retirement.

(b) When a change in family status occurs prior to retirement which would effect a change as provided in § 48.204(e), new DD Form 1688,¹ Election of Options, Retired Servicemen's Family Protection Plan, should be filed to evidence such change.

§ 48.302 Substantiating evidence regarding dependency and age of dependents.

At the time of submitting the election, or prior to retirement, the member must indicate his wife's and youngest child birth date as applicable to the option elected. At or before the time of his retirement, he must submit proof of final dissolution of prior marriages, if any, both for himself and his spouse. The age of the dependents must be substantiated by a birth certificate or other competent evidence. The birth

date of a member must be verified by his service record. All required substantiating evidence must be at the disbursing office which would normally pay the member retired pay or retainer pay immediately following retirement so as to permit the establishment of accurate pay accounts and to prevent the creation of indebtedness or overpayments.

§ 48.303 Condition affecting entitlement of widow or widower.

A member may have a different lawful spouse at the time of retirement from the lawful spouse he had at the time of election. The lawful spouse at the time of retirement is the spouse eligible for an annuity at the time of member's death. Divorce of the member will remove the former spouse as a prospective annuitant.

Subpart D—Reduction of Retired Pay

§ 48.401 Computation of reduction.

(a) The reduction to be made in the retired pay of a member who has made an election shall be computed by the uniformed service concerned in each individual case, based upon tables of factors prepared by the Board of Actuaries. The computation shall be based upon the applicable table in effect on the date of retirement.

(b) An adjustment may be made in the reduction of retired pay upon the finding of an administrative error or a mistake of fact (see § 48.603).

(c) If a member elects to be covered by option 3, and on the date he is awarded retired pay has no children eligible to receive the annuity, or has only a child or children aged 18-22 (other than a child described in § 48.102(e)(4) and elects, at retirement, that such child or children shall not be considered to be eligible beneficiaries, he shall have his costs computed as though he had elected option 1. If he elects option 3, and on the date he is awarded retired pay has no wife eligible for the annuity, he shall have his costs computed as though he had elected option 2.

(d) If a member elects option 3, and after he becomes entitled to retired pay, there is no eligible spouse because

¹ See footnote 1 to § 48.205.